

committed to seizing the opportunities before us in this new atmosphere of mutual trust. The depth, quality and candor of our dialogue is unprecedented. It reflects the democratic values we share and our commitment to move forward boldly as we deepen this authentic partnership of neighbors.

NOTE: An original was not available for verification of the content of this joint statement.

Remarks Following a Meeting With Congressional Leaders

September 7, 2001

Unemployment Rates

Thank you all for coming. Today, visiting with the Speaker and the Leader, it's the end of a long week of discussing how to make sure our economy begins to grow again.

I want to appreciate Denny and Trent for coming down again. They've been visiting with their Members, and I've been visiting with them and their Members. I also had a good discussion today with Minority Leader Gephardt and, of course, Senate Majority Leader Daschle the other day, as well, about how we can kind of get away from all the distractions that tend to dominate Washington and focus on a pro-growth agenda for this fall.

The unemployment numbers today are evidence that I've seen firsthand as I travel the country, and that is, too many people are losing their jobs as a result of a slowdown that began when Dick and I were campaigning across our country last summer. This slowdown is real, and it's affecting too many lives, and we're concerned about it.

Any American out of work is too many Americans out of work. And that's why it's absolutely essential that we work together to put a growth plan in place to create jobs for hard-working Americans. It starts with having a responsible budget that meets our Nation's obligations without affecting Social Security or dipping into Social Security.

We made a great step toward economic growth when we worked together to pass tax relief. One-half of the checks have gone out; more relief is on the way this fall, which should help our economy. Beginning in Janu-

ary 1st, Americans will see lower tax rates, lower withholding from their paychecks, and a larger tax credit.

Tax relief is just now making its way in the economy, and there are some, it seems like, who are beginning to say, maybe we ought to raise taxes. But I can assure you, the four of us on this stage are not going to let anybody pick the pockets of the American taxpayer.

To help get our economy moving again, Congress needs to enact an energy plan which will lower energy costs and create jobs. To get the economy moving again, Congress needs to enact trade promotion authority, so we can open up new markets for American products.

We've got a plan to get our economy moving so Americans can find work. And today I want to thank the leadership of the Congress from the Republican side that came and strategized with the Vice President and me as how to get this plan moving. I want the American people to know we're deeply concerned about the unemployment rates, and we intend to do something about it.

Thank you all very much.

NOTE: The exchange began at 3:07 p.m. on the South Grounds of the White House.

Digest of Other White House Announcements

The following list includes the President's public schedule and other items of general interest announced by the Office of the Press Secretary and not included elsewhere in this issue.

September 2

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush returned from Camp David, MD, to Washington, DC.

September 3

In the morning, the President and Mrs. Bush traveled to Kaukauna, WI, and then to Green Bay, WI. Later, they traveled to Detroit, MI. In the afternoon, they returned to Washington, DC.

September 4

In the afternoon, the President met in the Oval Office with Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle to discuss the administration's legislative priorities and fall agenda.

September 5

The President announced his intention to nominate William R. Brownfield to be Ambassador to Chile.

September 6

In the afternoon, the President and President Vicente Fox of Mexico traveled together to Toledo, OH. Later, they returned to Washington, DC.

The White House announced that the President will travel to Jacksonville, FL, and Sarasota, FL, on September 10–11 to speak to teachers and students about his education and reading initiatives.

The President announced his intention to nominate Andrea G. Barthwell to be Deputy Director for Demand Reduction at the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

The President announced his appointment of John C. Danforth as Special Envoy for Peace to The Sudan.

September 7

In the evening, the President and Mrs. Bush went to the Library of Congress to participate in National Book Festival events.

The President announced his intention to nominate Ernest L. Johnson to be a U.S. Alternate Representative to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The President announced his intention to nominate Nancy Cain Marcus to be a U.S. Alternative Representative to the General Assembly of the United Nations.

**Nominations
Submitted to the Senate**

The following list does not include promotions of members of the Uniformed Services, nominations to the Service Academies, or nominations of Foreign Service officers.

Submitted September 4

Eduardo Aguirre, Jr., of Texas, to be First Vice President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2005, vice Jackie M. Clegg, term expired.

George L. Argyros, Sr., of California, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Spain, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Andorra.

M. Christina Armijo, of New Mexico, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of New Mexico, vice a new position created by Public Law 106-553, approved December 21, 2000.

Brigadier General Edwin J. Arnold, Jr., United States Army, to be a member and President of the Mississippi River Commission, under the provisions of Section 2 of an Act of Congress, approved June 1879 (21 Stat. 37)(33 USC 642).

Jo Anne Barnhart, of Delaware, to be Commissioner of Social Security for the term expiring January 19, 2007, vice Kenneth S. Apfel, term expired.

John D. Bates, of Maryland, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia, vice Stanley S. Harris, retired.

Charlotte L. Beers, of Texas, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy, vice Evelyn Simonowitz Lieberman.

Susan Schmidt Bies, of Tennessee, to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for a term of 14 years from February 1, 1998, vice Susan Meredith Phillips, resigned.

Marion Blakey, of Mississippi, to be a member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2005, vice John Arthur Hammerschmidt, term expired.